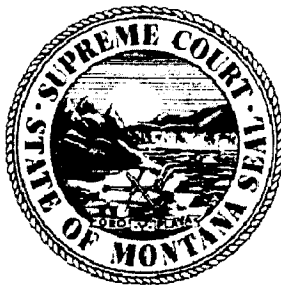


August 4 2010

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

DA 10-0346

COLSTRIP ENERGY LIMITED
PARTNERSHIP, a Montana limited
partnership,

Plaintiff and Appellant,

v.

ORDER OF MEDIATOR APPOINTMENT

NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION, a
Delaware corporation,

Defendant and Appellee.

This appeal being subject to M.R.App.P. 7, and the parties having failed to jointly and timely select a mediator under M.R.App.P., 7(4),(c),

IT IS ORDERED THAT **Thomas E. Towe**, whose name appears next on the list of attorneys desiring appointment as mediators for Money Judgments appeals which is maintained pursuant to M.R.App.P., 7(4)(e), is hereby appointed to conduct the mediation process required by M.R.App.P., 7(5), and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the time periods set forth in M.R.App.P., 7(5)(d) shall run from the date of this order of appointment.

A true copy of this order is being mailed to counsel of record for the parties, or to the parties individually if not represented by counsel, on the date hereof.

DATED this August 4, 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

Ed Smith, Clerk of the Supreme Court

c: Ward E. 'Mick' Taleff, Charles Hansberry, Robin A. McHugh, Stephen Ross
Brown, Michael R. Engleman, Leon B. Kellner, Thomas E. Towe